

Forensics must not be left to get along as best they can. Oratory and debate demand unity encouragement, and that encouragement must be effective and whole hearted. Not only is the reputation of the university at stake, but the value of university training depends in no small degree upon it.

This is the last HESPERIAN for the present university year. While to edit a college paper requires no little sacrifice, yet for this the management, in looking back over the past nine months, feels somewhat repaid. Of course, it is wrong to boast, but the opportunity is too great to be missed. The HESPERIAN, has, perhaps, during the present year, attained a place in journalism never before occupied by a western college paper. Its circulation has doubled; its merits have been officially recognized by the University authorities; it has been regularly accorded an enviable place in the exchange columns of our eastern contemporaries. Moreover it has stood as the uncompromising advocate of students' rights; it has well earned its common appellation, THE STUDENTS' PAPER.

The success of the HESPERIAN during the past year is not to be attributed to the efforts of any single member of the staff, but rather to the hearty co-operation of all; and not only to those whose names appear as members of the board of editors but also to those who have contributed to the literary department and the 'retreat' column. It is the students' paper and the students have made it what it is. Every student subscriber is a member of the HESPERIAN association and has a voice in the management of the paper. Students point with pride to the HESPERIAN of the past and present; they are hopeful for the HESPERIAN of the future.

The university year is passing out: a few more hours of work; the sound of a few more voices; the throwing of a few roses and the year's events will die off into a distant echo. We pause upon the precipice and gaze back down the string of scholastic months before taking the fateful leap. The prospective is amusing and instructive: the events dwindle in importance as they recede. There are the sweltering autumn days; the gleaming

faces of ruddy farmer boys; the sallow countenances of hot house youths; old fathers and fond mothers with their verdant sons and radiant daughters; the immovable 'no' of the enrollment committee; the sea of blank-faced expectancy in the opening chapel exercise; the words of encouragement from the Chancellor; and the first uncaging of the Uni. yell. Then there are faint visions of fat bank accounts, the fond hope gone glimmering of many credits, the long list of un-won victories, the lengthy catalogue of unaccomplished achievements. There are broken resolves, blasted hopes, unexpected defeats, and doubtful victories. A thousand castles have been broken down; a hundred foundations have proved to be of sand.

Then there are happy holiday times and the faces of the family at home; there are murmurs against the profs. and faculty and all the powers that be; there are petitions and political scraps and furious forensic battles; there are conventions and clannish schemes and all the jollity of the various hops, with their banks of ferns, odor of roses and richness of color.

The debaters settle all the great international questions, the chop houses murmur at the government and finally the unfrosted soldiery go to war. Now and then the times are turbulent and the mutterings loud; now nothing but the hum of labor is heard, subdued and low; now all is instinct with life, activity, movement.

The trees leaf, the grass grows green, the days become lotus-like, a few love tales are told, and with a final flare of the trumpets, the lights of the year go out and the "children of the Chancellor" scatter to their hundred homes: better? yes; broader? yes; happier? probably; stronger? to be sure, and with the greatest good of all—that of having LIVED the school-year's circle out.

Two of Mrs. Manning's classes in Elocution had a joint class meeting last Thursday, at which three from the class of young ladies and one from the boys' class, took part in delivering select readings. Those taking part in the exercises were Misses Davis, Alderman, and Custer and Mr. John Boose. They all showed careful training.

*Just received a fine lot of Slippers for Commencement. Foot Form Store 1213 O street*